Mountain Weather Forecast

Northwest Highlands

Including Sutherland, Ben Wyvis, Wester Ross, The Cuillin, Glen Affric, Glen Shiel and Knoydart
Forecast valid from 00:00 on Thursday 12 Jan 2023 until 23:59 on Friday 13 Jan 2023

Forecast Issued on Wednesday 11 Jan 2023 at 16:19 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High for unsettled conditions and for turning colder over the weekend, lower for detail especially later Friday and Saturday.

Headline for Thursday 12 Jan 2023: After dry start, soon becoming unsettled with showers or longer spells of snow and strengthening winds bringing blizzards, though rain at low levels.

Mountain weather hazards on Thursday 12 Jan 2023

Blizzards
High Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
High Likelihood

Storm force winds
No Likelihood

Gales
Medium Likelihood

Severe chill effect
High Likelihood

Poor visibility
High Likelihood

Thunderstorms
Low Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
Medium Likelihood

Strong sunlight
Low Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Light snow showers (night)	Partly cloudy (night)	Clear night	Sunny intervals	Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Heavy snow
Precipitation probability							
30%	10%	<05%	20%	70%	90%	90%	70%

Forecast for Thursday 12 Jan 2023

Weather: Showers becoming isolated in the early hours then a dry end to the night with clear spells. This leads to a deceptively dry start on Thursday for most with some sunshine across the far north well into the morning but cloud soon thickening to bring rain to Skye with snow above 800m around dawn and then extending northeast to all areas with the snow level more like 500-600m inland. Further showers or longer spells of snow with rain on low ground for the rest of the day. With strengthening winds and plenty snow cover at height then blizzard conditions will develop across the upper slopes. Lightning is a small risk too. Later in the evening the rain and snow easing and snow levels edging up.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 40% overnight, 60% at first on Thursday in the north but mostly 10% or less during the day.

Low cloud and visibility: In early hours broken becoming patchy cloud mainly above 600-700m. The cloud becoming extensive during the morning and often falling 450-600m with very poor visibility in cloud, and where blizzard or whiteout conditions develop. Poor in snow showers too, with moderate visbility in rain at lower levels.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/mountain-forecast
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Forecast for Thursday 12 Jan 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	18/21 W	15/19 SW	13/16 S	21/26 SE	30/36 S	32/39 S	30/36 SE	17/22 E	21/25 NE
900	17/21 W	15/19 SW	13/16 S	20/25 SE	27/33 S	29/36 S	27/34 SE	16/21 E	18/23 NE
600	10/14 SW	10/14 SW	9/12 S	14/18 SE	17/24 S	20/27 S	18/25 SE	12/17 E	12/17 N
300	3/16 W	3/14 W	2/10 SW	3/14 SE	3/19 S	4/22 S	4/22 SE	7/14 E	4/18 NE
Glen	2/6 W	1/6 W	3/5 NE	9/17 E	9/22 S	10/23 S	10/23 SE	9/15 E	6/16 NE

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	-1/-8	-1/-7	-2/-7	-1/-8	-2/-10	-2/-10	-2/-10	-2/-8	-2/-9
900	-0/-7	-1/-6	-1/-6	-0/-7	-1/-9	-1/-9	-1/-8	-1/-7	-1/-8
600	2/-3	1/-3	1/-2	2/-3	1/-5	1/-6	1/-5	1/-4	1/-4
300	3/2	3/1	2/0	2/0	2/0	2/-0	2/0	2/-1	2/-0
Glen	5/4	5/4	4/2	5/2	6/3	5/2	6/2	5/2	5/2
Freezing Level*	800m	800m	800m	700m	700m	600m	800m	800m	700m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View
Note the very low feels like temperature.

Forecast for Friday 13 Jan 2023
Weather: Bright or sunny intervals and occasional showers which will be of snow above 400-500m, perhaps 300m in the far north later. The showers will be lighter than on previous days with a better chance of sunny interludes.

Maximum wind: Northwesterly 20 gusts 30mph becoming variable 10-15mph.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 40% - some clearances

Low cloud and visibility: Occasional cloud at 600-900m in showers, perhaps a bit lower towards the west coast in the afternoon. Visibility also reduced to moderate, perhaps poor in the showers below the cloud.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 2 rising to Plus 5 Celsius
At 800m: Minus 2 Celsius falling Minus 4 in the north
Freezing level: 600m falling 400m in the north

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